

December 2, 2016

Via Electronic Filing

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization
Notice of Forbearance from Lifeline BIAS Requirements
WC Docket No. 11-42**

Pursuant to the *Lifeline Modernization Order*¹ and the *BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*,² as authorized representatives of East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless (“EKN”), we hereby submit this Notice of Forbearance from Lifeline broadband internet access service (“BIAS”) requirements throughout EKN’s Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) service area.

EKN is a competitive ETC with service areas in portions of Kentucky. As a recipient of frozen high cost support (“FHCS”), EKN is not required to provide Lifeline-supported BIAS in its ETC service area.³ EKN hereby provides notice that it is availing itself of the FCC’s forbearance from the Lifeline BIAS requirement throughout its ETC service area for the study area listed in Attachment A.

Pursuant to advice from Wireline Competition Bureau staff, EKN will supplement this filing with census block information at a future date.

¹ *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order,, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016)(“*Lifeline Modernization Order*”).

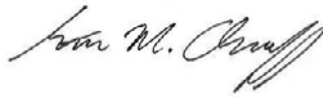
² *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking to Invoke Forbearance Granted by Lifeline Modernization Order*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 11-42, DA 16-1316 (WCB. rel. November 22, 2016) (“*BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*”).

³ Unlike recipients of other types of high-cost support, who were granted forbearance based on census block, FHCS recipients “are not required to offer Lifeline-supported broadband services in their designated service areas.” See *Lifeline Modernization Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 4074 (Para. 311).

Notwithstanding this forbearance filing and in accordance with the *Lifeline Modernization Order*, EKN reserves the right to offer and receive reimbursement for providing Lifeline-supported BIAS to eligible subscribers.⁴

Please contact the undersigned if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven M. Chernoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Chernoff" clearly distinguishable.

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⁴ See *id.* See also, *BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*, *supra*, at p. 2

WC Docket No. 11-42
East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless
Lifeline BIAS Forbearance Filing

Attachment A
Information Regarding ETC Designations

ETC Name	SAC	State	Designating Authority	Date(s) of Designation
East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless	269007	KY	Kentucky Public Service Commission	8/11/2005